

II. Response to Rejections

A. Rejections to Claims 4-36 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-36 are patentable over *Musk, et al.* in view of *Behr, et al.*. None of these references, nor their combination, teaches or suggests the method of servicing requests for geographic information that is found in claims 4, 17, and 29 and includes the following limitations:

said request calls for said remote access server to obtain data from a base device, and

said base device is operatively coupled for communication with said remote access server via a network.

Musk, et al. teaches a network accessible service that integrates both a business directory and a map database. Col. 1, lns. 32-34. User computer system 1 interfaces over Internet link 14 to software and database central server system 16. Col. 2, lns. 16-19, Fig. 1. A user initiates a search request to server 16. Server 16 performs the search and generates a map that is sent to the user. Col. 2, lns. 58-62, Fig. 3. *Musk, et al.* provides no teaching or suggestion that the user's request calls for the server to obtain data from a base device that is operatively coupled for communication with the server via a network, as required by claims 4, 17, and 29. The Examiner already acknowledged this shortcoming in *Musk, et al.* See Office Action mailed October 23, 2002, p. 2.

Behr, et al. teaches a method of providing route guidance information to a mobile unit in response to a request from the mobile unit. Col. 2, lns. 50-52. System 10 includes unit 12 and a plurality of remote units arranged to communicate with unit 12. Col. 5, ln. 66 – col. 6, ln. 2, Fig. 1. Third party integrator 80 in system 10 provides additional data for responding to queries from a mobile unit. The additional data is preferably received from other information providers, illustrated in Figure 1 as functional block 82. The additional data may be supplied from external sources to unit 12 via any known data communication network. Col. 9, lns. 47-55. *Behr, et al.* provides no teaching that mobile unit requests call for unit 12 to obtain data from functional block 82, as required by claims 4, 17, and 29. The retrieval of information from functional block 82 is not specified in the mobile unit's request.

The Examiner appears to assert that functional block 82 satisfies the base device called for in claims 4, 17, and 29, making the combination of *Musk, et al.* and *Behr, et al.* sufficient to render claims 4, 17, and 29 unpatentable. See Office Action mailed October 23,

2002, p. 2-3. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion. Nothing in either reference teaches the limitation in claims 4, 17, and 29 that "said request calls for said remote access server to obtain data from a base device." A combination of the references includes a server with third party integrator 80. However, there is no teaching that a mobile unit's request to the server for geographic information calls for integrator 80, or any other entity, to obtain data from a base device.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Musk, et al.* in view of *Behr, et al.* fails to render claim 4, 17, and 29 unpatentable for at least the above-cited reasons — making these claims proper for allowance.

Claims 5-16 depend ultimately from claim 4 and include all the limitations of claim 4 — making claims 5-16 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 4.

Claims 18-28 depend ultimately from claim 17 and include all the limitations of claim 17 — making claims 18-28 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 17.

Claims 30-36 depend ultimately from claim 29 and include all the limitations of claim 29 — making claims 30-36 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 29.

B. New Claims 37-45

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 37-45 are patentable over *Musk, et al.* in view of *Behr, et al.*

Claims 37-39 depend ultimately from claim 4 and include all the limitations of claim 4 — making claims 37-39 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 4.

Claims 40-42 depend ultimately from claim 17 and include all the limitations of claim 17 — making claims 40-42 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 17.

Claims 43-45 depend ultimately from claim 29 and include all the limitations of claim 29 — making claims 43-45 patentable for at least the same reasons as set forth above for claim 29.

III. Additional Remarks

The references cited by the Examiner but not relied upon in the Office Action have been reviewed. It is believed that none of these references, either individually or in combination with other references, renders any of the claims unpatentable.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 4-36 and consideration of new claims 37-45.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this document, including any fee for extension of time, which may be requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

Amendments in the Claims:

4. (Once Amended) A method for servicing requests for geographic information, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a request at a remote access server from a remote access device, wherein:

said request calls for geographic information [and identifies data on a base device],
said request calls for said remote access server to obtain data from a base device, and
said base device is operatively coupled for communication with said remote access server via a network;

(b) said remote access server obtaining said data from said base device; and

(c) providing said geographic information called for in said request, based at least in part on said data.

17. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium having computer readable code embodied on said computer readable medium, said computer readable code for programming said computer to perform a method for servicing requests for geographic information, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a request at a remote access server from a remote access device, wherein:

said request calls for geographic information [and identifies data on a base device],
said request calls for said remote access server to obtain data from a base device, and
said base device is operatively coupled for communication with said remote access server via a network;

(b) said remote access server obtaining said data from said base device; and

(c) providing said geographic information called for in said request, based at least in part on said data.

29. (Once Amended) An apparatus comprising:
at least one storage medium; and

at least one processor in communication with said at least one storage medium, said at least one processor performs a method for servicing requests for geographic information, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a request at a remote access server from a remote access device, wherein:

said request calls for geographic information [and identifies data on a base device],
said request calls for said remote access server to obtain data from a base device, and
said base device is operatively coupled for communication with said remote access server via a network;

(b) said remote access server obtaining said data from said base device; and

(c) providing said geographic information called for in said request, based at least in part on said data.